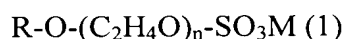


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended) An aqueous hair cleansing composition comprising 5 to 30 wt. % of a sulfate surfactant which is composed of sulfates represented by the following formula (1):



wherein, R represents a linear or branched C₈₋₁₈ alkyl or alkenyl group, n stands for 0 or a positive integer, and M represents sodium or ammonium, wherein 30 to 45 wt. % of the sulfates is a sulfate of formula (1) in which n=0, 18 to 27 wt. % of the sulfates is a sulfate of formula (1) in which n=1, 10 to 20 wt. % of the sulfates is a sulfate of formula (1) in which n=2, and the balance is a sulfate of formula (1) in which n is 3 or greater; and the total amount of the sulfates of formula (1) in which n is an integer of from 0 to 2 is 70 wt. % or greater based on all the sulfates

further comprising at least one silicone selected the group consisting of dimethylpolysiloxanes and amino-modified silicone.

Claim 2 (original): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, further comprising a nonionic or amphoteric surfactant.

Claim 3 (original): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, further comprising a cationic polymer.

Claim 4 (canceled):

Claim 5 (original): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, further comprising a pearling agent containing either an ethylene glycol monoalkyl ester or an ethylene glycol dialkyl ester.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, which comprises 33 to 45 wt. % of said sulfate surfactant of formula (1) in which $n=0$.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, comprising 33 to 43 wt. % of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=0$, 20 to 25 wt. % of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=1$, 13 to 18 wt. of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=2$ and the balance of said sulfates of formula (1) in which n is 3 or greater.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, comprising 35 to 41 wt. % of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=0$, 21 to 23 wt. % of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=1$, 14 to 17 wt. % of said sulfate of formula (1) in which $n=2$ and the balance of said sulfates of formula (1) in which n is 3 or greater.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein said total amount of the sulfates of formula (1) in which n is an integer of from 0 to 2 is from 70 to 85 wt. %.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, which comprises 7 to 23 wt. % of said sulfate surfactant.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, which comprises 10 to 20 wt. % of said sulfate surfactant.

Claim 12 (previously presented) The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 2, wherein a nonionic surfactant is present in an amount up to 15 wt. %.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 2, wherein a nonionic surfactant is present in an amount of 0.5 to 10 wt. %.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 2, wherein an amphoteric surfactant is present in an amount up to 10 wt. %.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 2, wherein an amphoteric surfactant is present in an amount of 0.5 to 8 wt. %.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 3, wherein said cationic polymer is present in an amount of 0.02 to 5 wt. %.

Claim 17 (canceled):

Claim 18 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 5, wherein said pearling agent is present in an amount of 0.5 to 8 wt. %.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein a pH after dilution to 20 times the weight with water at 25°C is from 2 to 6.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein a pH after dilution to 20 times the weight with water at 25°C is from 3.5 to 4.5.

Claim 21 (new) The aqueous hair cleansing composition of claim 1, wherein said at least one silicone is present in an amount of 0.05 to 6 wt. %.